In the Claims:

1. (Twice Amended) A method of making a composition comprising melting and blending a poly(vinyl alcohol) and a graft copolymer of poly(ethylene oxide),

wherein the graft copolymer of poly(ethylene oxide) comprises a poly(ethylene oxide) backbone main chain, and one or more chains derived from one or more monomers that differ chemically or configurationally from the poly(ethylene oxide) backbone, and wherein the one or more chains are bonded at one or more points along the poly(ethylene oxide) backbone, and

wherein the graft copolymer of poly(ethylene oxide) is prepared from poly(ethylene oxide) resins with number average molecular weights of about 100,000 g/mol to about 8,000,000 g/mol.

2. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the one or more monomers comprise one or more vinyl monomers.

3. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the one or more monomers comprise one or more polar vinyl monomers.

4. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the one or more monomers comprise one or more polar vinyl monomers selected from the group consisting of 2-hydroxyethyl methacrylate, poly(ethylene glycol) methacrylates, poly(ethylene glycol) ethyl ether methacrylates, poly(ethylene glycol) acrylates, poly(ethylene glycol) ethyl ether acrylate, poly(ethylene glycol) methacrylates with terminal hydroxyl groups, acrylic acid, maleic anhydride, itaconic acid, sodium acrylate, 3-hydroxypropyl methacrylate, acrylamide, glycidyl methacrylate, 2-bromoethyl acrylate, carboxyethyl acrylate, methacrylic acid, 2-chloroacrylonitrile, 4-chlorophenyl acrylate, 2-cyanoethyl acrylate, glycidyl acrylate, 4-nitrophenyl acrylate, pentabromophenyl acrylate, poly(propylene glycol) methacrylate, poly(propylene glycol) acrylate, 2-propene-1-sulfonic acid and its sodium salt, sulfo ethyl methacrylate, 3-sulfopropyl methacrylate, and 3-sulfopropyl acrylate.

6. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the one or more monomers comprise one or more hydroxyalkyl esters of methacrylic acid.

7. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the one or more monomers comprise 2-hydroxyethyl methacrylate.

12. (Twice Amended) A method of making a composition comprising melting and blending a poly(vinyl alcohol), a poly(ethylene oxide), one or more polar vinyl monomers and an initiator, under sufficient heat and shear conditions to form a homogenous melt blend of poly(vinyl alcohol) and a graft copolymer of poly(ethylene oxide).

13. (Twice Amended) A method of making a film comprising forming a melt blend of a poly(vinyl alcohol), a poly(ethylene oxide), one or more polar vinyl monomers and an initiator, under sufficient heat and shear conditions to form a homogenous melt blend of poly(vinyl alcohol) and a graft copolymer of poly(ethylene oxide); and

extruding the melt blend to form a film.

14. (Twice Amended) A method of making a film comprising extruding poly(vinyl alcohol) and a graft copolymer of poly(ethylene oxide) in the shape of a film,

wherein the graft copolymer of poly(ethylene oxide) comprises a poly(ethylene oxide) backbone main chain, and one or more chains derived from one or more monomers that differ chemically or configurationally from the poly(ethylene oxide) backbone, and wherein the one or more chains are bonded at one or more points along the poly(ethylene oxide) backbone, and wherein the graft copolymer of poly(ethylene oxide) is prepared from poly(ethylene oxide) resins with number average molecular weights of about 100,000 g/mol to about 8,000,000 g/mol.

Please add the following new claims:

15. (New) A method of making a composition comprising melting and blending a poly(vinyl alcohol) and a graft copolymer of poly(ethylene oxide),

wherein the graft copolymer of poly(ethylene oxide) comprises a poly(ethylene oxide) backbone main chain, and one or more chains derived from one or more monomers that differ chemically or configurationally from the poly(ethylene oxide) backbone, and wherein the one or more chains are bonded at one or more points along the poly(ethylene oxide) backbone, and

wherein the graft copolymer of poly(ethylene oxide) is prepared from a poly(ethylene oxide) resin that is grafted simultaneously while blended with the poly(vinyl alcohol).

16. (New) The method of Claim 15, wherein the one or more monomers comprise one or more vinyl monomers.

17. (New) A method of making a composition comprising melting and blending a poly(vinyl alcohol) and a graft copolymer of poly(ethylene oxide),

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wherein the graft copolymer of poly(ethylene oxide) comprises a poly(ethylene oxide) backbone main chain, and one or more chains derived from one or more monomers that differ chemically or configurationally from the poly(ethylene oxide) backbone, and wherein the one or more chains are bonded at one or more points along the poly(ethylene oxide) backbone, and

wherein the graft copolymer of poly(ethylene oxide) is water-soluble.

18. (New) The method of Claim 17, wherein the one or more monomers comprise one or more vinyl monomers.

19. (New) A method of making a composition comprising using an extruder to blend and extrude a poly(vinyl alcohol) and a graft copolymer of poly(ethylene oxide),

wherein the graft copolymer of poly(ethylene oxide) comprises a poly(ethylene oxide) backbone main chain, and one or more chains derived from one or more monomers that differ chemically or configurationally from the poly(ethylene oxide) backbone, and wherein the one or more chains are bonded at one or more points along the poly(ethylene oxide) backbone, and wherein the extruded product contains no visible gel particles.

20. (New) The method of Claim 19, wherein the one or more monomers comprise one or more vinyl monomers.

21. (New) A method of making a composition comprising melting and blending a poly(vinyl alcohol) and a graft copolymer of poly(ethylene oxide),

wherein the graft copolymer of poly(ethylene oxide) comprises a poly(ethylene oxide) backbone main chain, and one or more chains derived from one or more monomers that differ chemically or configurationally from the poly(ethylene oxide) backbone, and wherein the one or more chains are bonded at one or more points along the poly(ethylene oxide) backbone, and

wherein the composition comprises a compatible blend of the poly(vinyl alcohol) and the graft copolymer of poly(ethylene oxide).

22. (New) The method of Claim 21, wherein the one or more monomers comprise one or more vinyl monomers.

23. (New) A method of making a composition comprising melting and blending a poly(vinyl alcohol) and a graft copolymer of poly(ethylene oxide),

wherein the graft copolymer of poly(ethylene oxide) comprises a poly(ethylene oxide) backbone main chain, and one or more chains derived from one or more monomers that differ chemically or configurationally from the poly(ethylene oxide) backbone, and wherein the one or more chains are bonded at one or more points along the poly(ethylene oxide) backbone, and

wherein the composition consists essentially of the poly(vinyl alcohol) and the graft copolymer of poly(ethylene oxide).

24. (New) The method of Claim 23, wherein the one or more monomers comprise one or more vinyl monomers.